<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please cancel Claims 1 to 33 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and add new Claims 34 to 49 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

34. (New) An image processing apparatus capable of detachably mounting thereon a recording medium on which image data are recorded so that an external printer can read out the recorded image data, said image processing apparatus comprising:

generating means for generating print setting information for printing by the external printer; and

analyzing means for causing the external printer to read out, from said recording medium, print setting items information indicative of items settable by the external printer and analyzing the read-out print setting item information, when said generating means generates the print setting information,

wherein said generating means generates the print setting information on the basis of the print setting item information analyzed by said analyzing means, and

wherein on said recording medium, the print setting item information indicative of the item settable by the external printer is recorded with respect to a plurality of the external printers.

35. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein said generating means generates automatic print information describing print image designation information and the print setting information, in order to cause the external printer to automatically print the image data.

36. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein said recording medium includes a directory for managing the automatic print information.

37. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein said recording medium includes a directory for managing the print setting information independently of the image data.

38. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 35, wherein the automatic print information is a DPOF file.

39. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the print setting information includes at least one of print type setting information, image processing setting information, two-side print setting information and staple setting information.

40. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 34, wherein the print setting information describes information for specifying the external printer.

41. (New) An image processing apparatus according to Claim 34, further comprising selecting means for selecting the external printer, wherein said generating means generates the print setting information on the basis of the print setting information of the external printer selected by said selecting means.

42. (New) A control method for an image processing apparatus capable of detachably mounting thereon a recording medium on which image data are recorded so that an external printer can read out the recorded image data, said control method comprising:

a generating step of generating print setting information for printing by the external printer; and

an analyzing step of causing the external printer to read out, from said recording medium, print setting items information indicative of items settable by the external printer and analyzing the read-out print setting item information, when said generating step generates the print setting information,

wherein said generating step generates the print setting information on the basis of the print setting item information analyzed in said analyzing step, and

wherein on said recording medium, the print setting item information indicative of the item settable by the external printer is recorded with respect to a plurality of the external printers.

43. (New) A control method according to Claim 42, wherein said generating step includes a step of generating automatic print information describing print image designation information and the print setting information, in order to cause the external printer to automatically print the image data.

44. (New) A control method according to Claim 43, wherein said recording medium includes a directory for managing the automatic print information.

45. (New) A control method according to Claim 42, wherein said recording medium includes a directory for managing the print setting information independently of the image data.

46. (New) A control method according to Claim 43, wherein the automatic print information is a DPOF file.

47. (New) A control method according to Claim 42, wherein the print setting information includes at least one of print type setting information, image processing setting information, two-side print setting information and staple setting information.

48. (New) A control method according to Claim 42, wherein the print setting information describes information for specifying the external printer.

49. (New) A control method according to Claim 42, further comprising a selecting step of selecting the external printer, wherein said generating step generates the print setting information on the basis of the print setting information of the external printer selected in said selecting step.